



OEI News

August 2016



SECURING ARMY INSTALLATIONS WITH ENERGY THAT IS CLEAN, RELIABLE AND AFFORDABLE

From the Desk of the Executive Director

Army and Air Force: The Power of Partnership

In the last edition of OEI News, we announced the collaboration between the Army Office of Energy Initiatives (OEI) and the recently established Air Force Office of Energy Assurance (OEA). The Services will work together and leverage experiences to continue the development of large-scale renewable energy initiatives on Army and Air Force installations. Because the OEI and OEA will be working together and sharing information as a result of the partnership established by the Memorandum of Agreement, the OEI and OEA will be better positioned to identify opportunities for aggregated procurement across Air Force and Army installations.

The Army and the Air Force have several installations located within the same states across the United States and its territories. This collaboration provides an excellent opportunity for partnership to provide energy that is clean, reliable, and affordable. This increases energy security and resiliency on our installations.

In a time of increased budget constraints and limited resources, the Armed Services are continuously seeking new and innovative ways to deliver savings and efficiencies. Perhaps nowhere is this requirement more evident than with energy, as energy is critical to everything we do.

As large entities with tremendous demands for energy, this partnership translates into a potential opportunity to pool resources, share best practices, and increase bulk purchasing power and presence in the marketplace for renewable energy. This enables the two Services



Left to right: LTG David Halverson, U.S. Army Assistant Chief of Staff for Installation Management, HON Katherine Hammack, Assistant Secretary of the Army (Installations, Energy and Environment), HON Miranda Ballantine, Assistant Secretary of the Air Force (Installations, Environment and Energy), and Lt Gen John B. Cooper, Air Force Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics, Engineering and Force Protection.

to streamline processes, reduce costs, and negotiate favorable pricing on goods and services, potentially resulting in greater economic benefit for these projects. Pooling resources allows the Army and Air Force to achieve higher economies of scale. The combined resources and knowledge is beneficial because it allows us to take advantage of lessons learned on

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procurement methods, project execution and opportunity development. This partnership also aligns government and industry interests.

More broadly, efforts to collaborate with other Services could open up the possibility of multiple installation deal concepts and structures. We are exploring joint renewable energy project opportunities which could take advantage of the increased military profile in the marketplace and provide aid to the development of a portfolio strategy to balance Army and Air Force energy security goals and objectives.

We are excited to be engaged in this partnership with the Air Force in pursuit of our common energy related goals. We will be looking for additional opportunities to leverage our larger market presence to bring additional energy security and value, increase renewable power usage, and stabilize and lower our energy costs. This larger profile in the marketplace and creative approach to renewable energy project development is a win-win situation that can enhance energy security and resiliency, support mission readiness, save taxpayer money, and achieve the overarching and critical mission of protecting our nation. Read about our progress in the pages that follow.

- **Michael McGhee**
Executive Director
Army Office of Energy Initiatives



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Army and Alabama Power Move Forward with Large-Scale Renewable Energy Project Groundbreaking Event

On April 14, 2016, the Army Office of Energy Initiatives (OEI), Anniston Army Depot, the Mission and Installation Contracting Command (MICC), the General Services Administration (GSA) and Alabama Power Company (APC) conducted a groundbreaking event for an approximate 10 MW large-scale renewable energy solar project on 90 acres at Anniston Army Depot, Alabama.

- The project increases the amount of installed solar power in Alabama by 10-fold.
- Anniston Army Depot will continue to procure power from APC through an existing GSA Areawide contract.
- Energy generated by the project will be delivered to the grid as part of APC's wholesale portfolio, benefitting the Army and the local community.
- The project is expected to be operational by October of 2016.



Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army Energy & Sustainability Mr. Richard Kidd, IV joins OEI Executive Director Mr. Michael McGhee and Mr. Mark Crosswhite, APC Chairman, President, and CEO and other senior leaders and APC executives for a groundbreaking ceremony at Anniston Army Depot, Alabama.

Progress on the Road to Energy Resiliency

Army Cuts Ribbon on a 30 Megawatt Large-Scale Renewable Energy Project at Fort Benning, Georgia – Part of the Largest Solar Project in the Army to Date

On June 1, 2016 a ribbon cutting event for a 30 MW large-scale solar renewable energy project on Fort Benning, Georgia celebrated the official commencement of operations at the installation. The Army, Mission and Installation Contracting Command (MICC), General Services Administration (GSA), and Georgia Power developed the project. The project:

- Is the largest solar energy project in the Department of Defense to date.
- Will produce approximately 64 million kilowatt hours per year.
- Consists of 139,950 solar panels on 200 acres at the installation.
- Will generate enough solar energy to power about 4,300 homes per year.



Left to right: Mr. Michael McGhee, Executive Director, OEI; Mr. Stan Wise, GA Public Service Commissioner; Mr. Norrie McKenzie, Vice President Renewable Development, Georgia Power; Congressman Sanford Bishop, Jr., GA-2; BG Eric Wesley, Commanding General, U.S. Army Maneuver Center of Excellence; HON Katherine Hammack, Assistant Secretary of the Army (Installations, Energy and Environment); LTG Todd Semonite, Chief of Engineers and Commanding General, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; Ms. Amy Porter, Deputy Federal Chief Sustainability Officer, White House Council on Environmental Quality.

Aerial view of the Fort Benning, Georgia solar array.

Large-Scale Solar Renewable Energy Project at Fort Rucker, Alabama

On June 2, 2016 the Army OEI, Fort Rucker, MICC, and GSA, in collaboration with Alabama Power Company, broke ground on an approximate 10 MW alternating current (AC), large-scale renewable energy solar project at Fort Rucker, Alabama.

- The project is the Army's second large-scale renewable energy project in Alabama and one of four being developed on Army installations in the state of Alabama.
- The Army and APC will enter into a 30-year easement for 90 acres on the installation for the project.
- Fort Rucker will continue to procure power from APC through an existing GSA Areawide contract.
- APC will develop, finance, design, install, own, operate, and maintain the large-scale renewable energy project.
- The project is expected to be operational by Fall 2016.



OEI Executive Director Michael McGhee delivers remarks at the Fort Rucker, Alabama Groundbreaking event. Other speakers included Mr. Russell Hall, Deputy to the Commanding General Fort Rucker; Mr. Zeke Smith, Executive Vice President of External Affairs, APC; Ms. Susan Damour, General Services Administration, Rocky Mountain Region Regional Administrator; and Mr. David Williams, Chief, Energy Programs Integration, USACE.

Army, Redstone Arsenal and SunPower Break Ground on Renewable Energy Solar Project

On June 3, 2016 The Army OEI, Redstone Arsenal, USACE Headquarters, USACE Huntsville Center of Excellence and SunPower broke ground on a 18,000 megawatt hours (MWh) per year onsite large-scale solar facility at Redstone Arsenal in Alabama. The project utilized the Multiple Award Task Order Contract (MATOC). It includes a 27-year Renewable Energy Service Agreement and lease. On April 28, 2016 SunPowerCorporation received a contract award for the project.

- The project is one of four large-scale renewable energy projects being developed on Army installations in the state of Alabama.
- Redstone Arsenal has identified 66 acres on the installation for the project.
- The plant is expected to offset the equivalent amount of annual carbon emissions as 10,000 acres of U.S. forests can neutralize in one year, according to estimates provided by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.
- All electricity from the solar project will be purchased at costs equal to or less than current power costs and consumed entirely by Redstone Arsenal.
- The solar project will be micro-grid compatible to increase the overall energy security of the installation.
- The facility is expected to be operational by December 2016.



*Left to right: Mr. David Williams, USACE-HQ; Mr. Chip Marin, USACE-Huntsville; Maj. Gen. Ted Harrison, Army Chief of Staff for Installation Management; Mr. Bill Kelly, SunPower Corporation; Mr. Richard Kidd, Deputy Secretary of the Army (Energy & Sustainability); Col. Bill Marks, Redstone Arsenal Garrison Commander; and Mr. Michael McGhee, Executive Director, OEI, symbolically break ground on Redstone Arsenal's solar project on June 3.
Photo Credit: Bryan Bacon, Redstone Arsenal.*

Army Cuts Ribbon on Large-Scale Renewable Energy Project at Fort Detrick, Maryland

On June 17, 2016 a ribbon cutting event for a 15 MW large-scale solar renewable energy project at Fort Detrick, celebrated the official commencement of operations at the installation. The Army OEI, Fort Detrick, the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) and Ameresco, Inc. developed the project. Ameresco, Inc. was awarded the contract on March 15, 2015 and a groundbreaking took place on April 1, 2015.

- The project consists of 59,994 solar panels on 67 acres of land at Fort Detrick.
- The facility is designed to serve about 12 percent of Fort Detrick's annual electric load requirements and is expected to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 19,000 metric tons annually.
- The Army will avoid approximately \$3 million in costs over the course of the contract.
- The onsite solar project is currently operational and is micro-grid capable to enhance energy security.



Left to right: Ms. Christine Harada, Federal Chief Sustainability Officer, White House Council on Environmental Quality; Mr. George Atwood, Deputy Commander, Defense Logistics Agency-Energy; HON Katherine Hammack, Assistant Secretary of the Army (Installations, Energy and Environment); Colonel Robert O'Brien IV, Commander, US Army Garrison, Fort Detrick; Senator Ben Cardin, Maryland; Ms. Nicole Bulgarino, Senior Vice President and General Manager, Federal Solutions, Ameresco.



The solar array at Fort Detrick, Maryland.

Upcoming Events:

- DOE Energy Exchange: August 9-11, 2016
- AUSA Annual Meeting: October 3-5, 2016
- Energy Awareness Month: October 2016



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